

The death of John Rice, a member, was announced.

R. S. Huidekoper, M. D., David Townsend, John B. Wood, Thos. Miles, Frances Emily White, M. D., and John S. Capp were elected members.

The following were elected correspondents:—Robert Caspary, of Königsberg, Agostino Todaro, of Palermo, J. E. Bommer, of Brussels, Teodoro Caruel, of Pisa, H. T. Geyler, of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Robert Schomburg, of Adelaide, and A. Inostranzeff, of St. Petersburg.

---

### MARCH 2.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-eight persons present.

The death of Wm. Maxwell Wood, M. D., a correspondent, was announced.

*On a Filaria Reported to have come from a Man.*—Prof. LEIDY exhibited a large thread-worm, which had been submitted to his examination by Dr. J. J. Woodward, U. S. A. It was recently presented to the Army Medical Museum, at Washington, by Dr. C. L. Garnett, of Buffalo, Putnam Co., West Virginia. Accompanying the specimen, is the copy of a letter from Dr. Garnett to Dr. Woodward, from which the following is an abstract: "During the winter of 1876, a man, a common laborer, aged about fifty, presented himself to me for treatment having a gleet discharge from the urethra, with a burning sensation during and after micturition. Previously, he had been treated for gonorrhœa, and I prescribed accordingly. The patient not improving, applied to other practitioners. In April, 1878, he came to me with a round, vivid-red worm, twenty-six inches in length, (the specimen you now possess) which was alive and very active in its movements, instantly coiling up like a watch-spring on being touched. Having no work on helminthology for reference, the only description I found which appeared to answer to the worm was that of *Strongylus gigas*, in Niemeyer, vol. II. p. 47. The patient is an illiterate man, with no motive for deception. He informed me that he discovered the worm protruding from his penis and drew it out without pain or difficulty. He was in much agitation and alarm about the occurrence, fearing, as he said, that "there might be more behind that one." For a few days previous to its passage, his urine was of a milky hue and some time subsequently of a yellow cast and slightly tinged with blood and mingled with mucus. The man is truthful, and no doubt exists in my mind, or in the minds of his neighbors as to the correctness of his statements. I regret

exceedingly that I did not appreciate the scientific interest of the subject, and send you the specimen in a fresh state, but the busy routine of a country practitioner's life leaves no time for the study of other than subjects of practical value in one's every day experience."

The worm preserved in alcohol is much coiled, of a clay color and opaque, or only feebly translucent, but more so at the head end. If it is really a human parasite, it appears to differ from all those heretofore described, and also seems different from other known parasites. It certainly is neither *Eustrongylus gigas*, nor is it the Guinea-worm, *Filaria medinensis*, though nearly related to this. Its characters are as follows: Body long, restiform, nearly uni-



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

1. Cephalic extremity; 2. Caudal extremity; the diagonal marking indicates the crossing of the fibres seen in the integument. Five diameters.

formly cylindrical, smooth, shining, elastic, tough, without evident annulation other than transverse wrinkling, with the anterior extremity evenly tapering in the continuous head, the end of which is rounded and smooth or without appendages of any kind; the posterior extremity not tapering, with the caudal end incurved, bluntly rounded, without appendages and imperforate or without evident anal or genital aperture. Mouth a terminal pore without lips, papillæ, or armature of any kind. Pharynx cylindrical, and opening into a straight cylindrical intestine, apparently ending in a blind pouch. Generative organs unobserved. Length of worm, 26 inches, greatest thickness, 1.5 mm. Width of head just behind the rounded extremity, 0.375 mm.; opposite the commencement of the intestine, 0.625 mm.; at the middle, 1.5 mm.; at the incurved caudal extremity, 1.5 mm. Length of œsophagus, 1.125.

The worm, of exceedingly simple character, is clearly neither a *Gordius* nor a *Mermis*, and though apparently more nearly allied to *Filaria*, a more intimate knowledge of its structure may prove it to be different. For the present it was proposed to distinguish it with the name of *FILARIA RESTIFORMIS*.

*On Rochelia patens*.—Mr. J. H. REDFIELD remarked at the meeting of the Botanical Section, that *Rochelia patens* was founded by Nuttall, upon a plant collected by Wyeth on Flat Head River, in the Rocky Mountains, and was described in the Journal of the Academy, 1st series, Vol. VII, p. 44, in 1834.

Dr. Gray in the Synoptical Flora of North America, II, p. 197, remarks concerning the plant that it may be an *Eritrichium*, but has not been identified, nor was it in the Academy's Herbarium.

Mr. R. stated that this specimen had been recently found among the Academy's specimens of *Echinosperrum*, and had been pronounced by Dr. Gray to be *Echinosperrum floribundum*, Lehm., a species widely diffused in Western North America.